Clark County

Animal Protection & Control

Advisory Board



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Five - Year Plan for Animal Services 2003

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# Advisory Board Membership

2001 - 2003

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Denise Kopkie Livestock Organization

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William Osborn Facility Operator

Dr. Elizabeth Grauer Veterinarian

Deen Adolphe Cat Owner

Ex-Officio non-voting

Members

Tim Jennings Clark County Animal Protection & Control

Pat Jollota City of Vancouver

Richard Collord SW Washington Humane Society

# Organizations Represented By Advisory Board Membership

# Other Participating Organizations

Greater Clark County Kennel Club Justice for Animal Welfare Society

West Columbia Gorge Humane Society SpottedPaw NW Dalmatian Rescue

Second Chance Companions Furry Friends

4H - Equine Spay Neuter All Pets

SW WA Humane Society Greyhound Rescue

Cat Fanciers Lucky Dog Rescue

SW Washington Veterinarian Association Chapple Hill Cat Sanctuary

Wild Ones Sanctuary SW Washington Humane Society

City of Vancouver No More Homeless Pets Coalition

Clark County Animal Protection & Control

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# **Executive Summary**

This document represents the third Five Year Plan for Clark County Animal Protection & Control services developed by the Animal Protection & Control Advisory Board. The work-plan adopted for the preparation of this report utilized the traditional advisory board outline for five-year plans. Advisory board strategies and recommendations will provide the Animal Protection & Control division a generalized guide for future program development. The Community Development Strategic Planning Process provides the methodology for carrying out the five-year plan recommendations. A sixteen-month work-plan was utilized. It included alternating monthly meetings for advisory board review and discussion of services and issues, then solicitation of interest group input the following month. Input on topics was requested from stakeholders through:

- Attendance at meetings.
- Written and email submissions.
- Telephone contact with staff.
- Meetings with APC staff.

When preparing the plan the advisory board adopted certain assumptions. In general it has been assumed conditions affecting animal services will remain consistent with the pattern of the past five-year period.

- Service demand activity levels will continue at rates consistent with 2001-2002 or greater.
- There will be no growth in revenue resources.
- Cost recovery for programs will remain at less than 100%.
- Staffing levels will remain constant.
- Fees will be basically consistent with similar fees charged by communities in Washington and the Portland, OR metropolitan area.

After consideration of community animal services issues the following broad strategies are recommended for implementation. These strategies all reflect collaborative relationships between the County's Animal Protection & Control agency and its stakeholders.

#### Strategies:

- Expanded Partnership Programs: Existing programs matching public and private funding sources have been successful and may be expanded to address identified service needs.
- **Public Education:** Utilize local government communication resources to promote private enterprise and non-profit animal services.
- Accessibility to Resources: Restrict direct animal control response to code related issues. Vendors may be substituted in some areas of historical service delivery.
- Volunteer Programs: Develop volunteer programs not in competition with stakeholder organizations for volunteer resources.
- Code Amendments: New and revised definitions to reflect changing community activities
- Community Incentive Program: Incorporate marketing practices that offer reward incentives into public education activities.

### Introduction

The Animal Protection & Control Advisory Board, a ten- (10) member board identified in County Code 8.01.030 <u>Animal Protection & Control Advisory Board</u>, makes recommendations on animal control codes, policies and community services related to animals. The Board of County Commissioners appoints members. The advisory board conducts regular public meetings and prepares an annual report for the Board of County Commissioners regarding community issues. The advisory board also develops five-year plans for animal control services. These plans are utilized as guidelines in the development of policy, procedure and programs. A representative of the Vancouver City Council is annually appointed to the advisory board. The Southwest Washington Humane Society provides animal sheltering services for Clark County. A representative of the Society attends board meetings. The representatives of the city of Vancouver, Clark County and SW Washington Humane Society serve as ex-officio, non-voting members of board

The basis for this report derives from the issues and presentations received by the advisory board during its regular meetings. The annual report to the Board of County Commissioners summarizes the topics presented and the recommendations of the advisory board regarding proposed program and policy development.

This plan was developed to guide Clark County's Animal Protection and Control Division. The methodology utilized by the advisory board assumes no new sources of revenue will be available to support community animal services. As a guiding tool this document is based on the following framework:

### It is Long-range

It looks ahead as far as is practical to anticipate growth and the resulting community needs.

### It is Comprehensive

It considers all areas of animal protection and control within the community.

### It is General

It establishes general areas of need and their relationship and implications for the community.

It is hoped that this plan will better enable the Board of County Commissioners, the citizens advisory board, regional city councils, animal interest organizations and the Animal Protection & Control division to provide a comprehensive system of animal protection and control for the community of Clark County.

### Goal:

It is the goal of this report to provide an outline for animal protection and control services for Clark County that affords maximum benefits to the greatest number of people in a manner that is financially responsible. This plan examines, in a systematic way, how the division can strive to achieve that goal within a changing community.

### Objectives:

- To assess the demand and need of Clark County's residents for animal protection and control.
- To establish priorities for the development of expanded services to the community of Clark County.
- To establish the groundwork for obtaining funds and other resources for capital improvements, operation and maintenance of Animal Protection and Control programs.
- To provide an animal protection and control program which meets the needs of Clark County's residents.
- To further strengthen Animal Protection and Control's relationship with other agencies and organizations with animal regulation and welfare interest.
- To provide the framework from which the Clark County Commissioners can establish policies for Clark County's Animal Protection and Control Division.

# Background

In 2001 the Clark County Department of Community Development released its 2001-2006 Strategic Plan. The Animal Protection & Control division incorporated the public process of the advisory board into its strategic planning. This process identified the Animal Protection & Control division's mission, values, stakeholders and mandates. These guiding principles are:

#### Mission

To provide for the safety, health and welfare of people and animals through enforcement of regulations, coordination of resources and responsiveness to community needs.

#### Core Values

- Always treat others with consistency and respect;
- Being responsive to community needs;
- Accepting cultural diversity;
- Striving for a positive and creative work environment;
- Maintaining personal and professional integrity;
- Invest in professional excellence.

#### Stakeholders

- General Public
- Animal Owner and Non-Owner
- Animal Welfare & Interest Organizations (Profit & Non-Profit)
- Elected Officials
- Local Governments
- Local Regulatory Agencies
- State Agencies.
- Federal Agencies

#### Mandates

### Community Mandates:

- Provide for the public health, safety and welfare;
- Provide quality customer service;
- Maintain an awareness of changing perspective & demographics;
- Conduct operations with fiscal responsibility;
- Administer the County Code Title 8 Animals.

#### Legal Mandates:

- County Code-Title 8 Animals
- RCW-Chapter 16 Animals, Strays, Brands, Fences
- Inter-local agreements

#### Setting & Populations

Clark County is located in southwest Washington State adjacent to the Columbia River. The State of Oregon borders the county to the south and west. It is bordered to the north by the Lewis River and to the east by the foothills of the Cascade Range. Located minutes north of the City of Portland, Oregon, the county consists of approximately 656 square miles of land.

Clark County has been one of the nations fastest growing communities during the past decade. The County is a growing community of approximately 359,677 residents\*. Projections estimate another 122,173 residents may be expected within the next ten- (10) years. Vancouver is the largest City within the County with a population of 148,800. According to the 2000 census the number of residents living in unincorporated Clark County is now 48%, or approximately 172,645 people. Seven- (7) cities and towns are incorporated within the county:

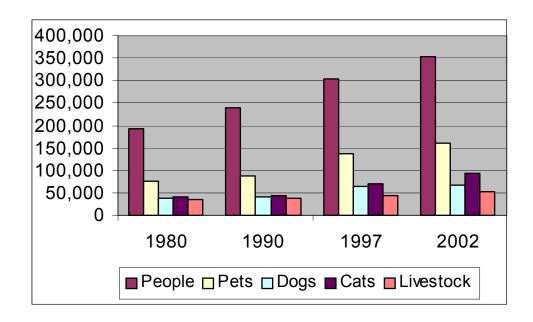
<u>Incorporated City or Town</u>	<u>Population</u>
Battle Ground	11,110
Camas	12,970
La Center	1,805
Ridgefield	2,145
Vancouver	148,800
Washougal	9,100
Yacolt	1,105

Animal Protection & Control serves the city of Vancouver through a program that is fully consolidated with that of the county. Interlocal agreements exist for the county's program to assist the police departments of the other cities. Camas and Washougal jointly maintain the only other animal control program within the county.

An estimated 161,852 domestic pets resided in Clark County. This total is based upon an estimate of 67,978 dogs and a cat population estimated at 93,874. \*\*

The Washington Agriculture Statistics Service reported the following livestock populations for Clark County: 15,000 cattle, 900 sheep, 300 hogs and 2,129 horses. The Clark County Executive Horse Council has estimated as many as 30,000 horses reside in the county.\*\*\*

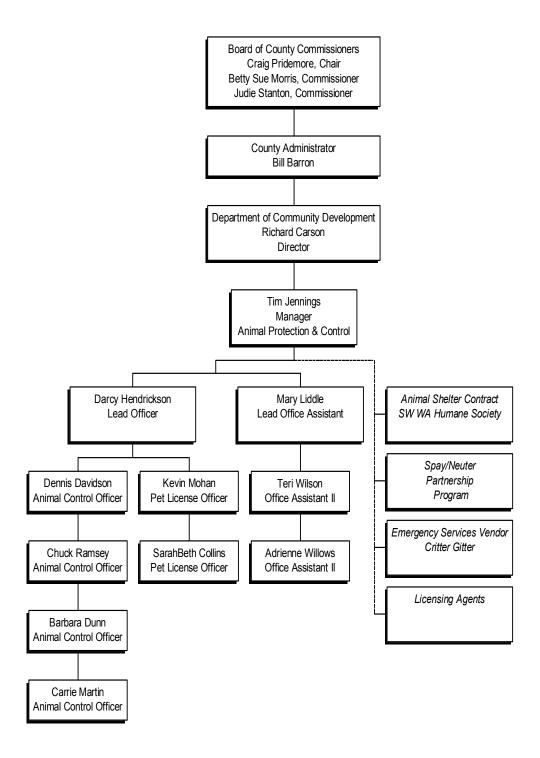
<sup>\*</sup> Appendix: Population analysis methodology



It is recognized that other agencies, such as the Washington State Department of Wildlife, Washington State Department of Agriculture, public health authorities, Clark County Sheriff, and municipal police departments also have animal control and welfare responsibilities and interests. County Code Title 8, Animals directs the Animal Protection & Control division to be cognizant of overlapping jurisdiction, to avoid duplication of services, and where appropriate, shall provide for coordination, referral and assistance to and among such agencies.

Several fundamental animal services that are both mandatory, and essential, to the community are currently delivered through contracted partnership agreements with the County.

<u>Service</u>	<u>Partnership Provider</u>	<u>der</u> <u>Purpose</u>	
Animal Sheltering	SW WA Humane Society	Mandatory	
Emergency After-Hours Response	Critter Gitter	Essential	
Licensing Agents	24 Locations	Discretionary	
Community Spay/Neuter Program	Non-Profit Animal Welfare	Discretionary	
· · · · · ·	Organizations		



### History

In April 1976 the Board of County Commissioners established Clark County Dog Control. In 1981 the division's responsibilities were expanded with an accompanying name change to Animal Control.

Initial responsibilities were the enforcement of the dog control ordinance of Clark County and, by contract, the City of Vancouver. This was carried out through the impoundment of stray dogs and the issuance of criminal citations.

- Four officers and one clerk/dispatcher provided Service.
- Service requests remained consistent for the remainder of the 1970's.
- Animal sheltering services have always been contracted through non-county owned agencies.

A new ordinance in May 1981 created Animal Control and expanded division responsibilities to all domestic animals. Infractions of the county code now brought civil penalties as opposed to only criminal ones.

- A manager was added to the staff.
- After hours emergency and holiday services were contracted to a private agency in August 1983. This relieved the four Animal Control Officers from 24 hour, 7 days per week responsibilities.

Unsuccessful attempts began in 1982 to utilize generated revenues to attain self-sufficiency. Intensive campaigns to raise revenue through licensing code changes and subsequent enforcement, i.e., cat licensing, were met by an accompanying increase in service requests.

- An additional clerical position was added in 1984 to assist licensing.
- Computer programming changes in 1986 left complete responsibility for license transactions within the division.
- A Pet License Officer was added to staff in 1988 to facilitate license revenue generation.

Initially, the County contracted animal sheltering services through the SW Washington Humane Society.

- During the years 1982-1986 Clark County contracted with a private kennel to shelter impounded stray animals. This arrangement placed severe limitations on the division's ability to impound and house animals other than dogs. The additional shelter duties for division staff restricted field response ability.
- The SW Washington Humane Society again began sheltering County impounded animals in 1987.

Since its inception Animal Protection & Control has responded to an increasing number of requests for service as well as increasing areas of responsibility. The number of officers to respond to these requests has not increased at an equivalent level.

- During the years 1985 1988 Animal Control became the primary, if not solitary, agency to address reports of livestock problems and cruelty to animals.
- An additional officer position was added in 1989 in response to the increasing reports of animal cruelty.

- In 1976 the Dog Control division handled an approximate 4,359 requests for service, utilizing four (4) officers.
- In 2001 the division handled 11,192 cases. This number is comparable to 17,235 service requests using 1976 complaint tracking methods. Five (5) animal control officers and two (2) licensing officers managed this caseload.

Throughout the 1990's Animal Protection & Control adopted operational and philosophical changes in its methods of service delivery. Such changes may best be described as greater interaction with existing regulatory agencies, and private organizations, within the community. Some examples of changes in service delivery would be:

- Utilization of the Animal Protection & Control Advisory Board as a permanently standing task force for community concerns;
- Consolidation of all animal control programs with the City of Vancouver;
- Enhanced training and certification of animal control officers;
- Increased privatization of services, i.e., expansion of shelter contract services, enabling cost effective service increases;
- Technological solutions to internal processes, such as license sales, enabling increasing workloads to be processed without increased employees;
- Enhanced Customer Service through neighborhood outreach, avoiding redundant public education programs provided by private organizations, and availability of access to services such as agents for licensing;
- Incentive programs, such as administrative fee and penalty waivers, to educate and inspire compliance with program goals.

During the five years since the last advisory board five-year plan the caseload has increased an average of 5% each year. Key operational changes include:

- The division staffing increased one (1) Pet Licensing Officer position in 1999.
- Special Programs have been designed to facilitate implementation of the identified program goals & objectives.
- Partnership programs have been developed to educate and cooperatively deliver services.
   The Community Spay/Neuter Assistance Program provides matching funds to local animal organizations for the provision of spaying and neutering programs. This program also provides assistance for low-income households with the cost of licensing their pets.
- Expanded responsibilities of the APC Advisory Board to include acting as a hearing tribunal for non-contested appeals of division determinations, evaluation and oversight of the Community Spay/Neuter Assistance Program.

## Demand & Need

### Feedback & Analysis

Animal Protection & Control (APC) receives feedback from our stakeholders through a variety of resources. Analysis of input from diverse sources may provide a generalized concept of the community's service needs. The division perceives this analysis function as a fundamental process that provides indicators of changing trends, and perceptions, and as an opportunity to initiate necessary program changes.

#### Examples of input by stakeholder:

### General Public

#### **Public Meetings**

- The APC Advisory Board holds regular monthly evening meetings to solicit, and facilitate, public involvement in program and policy development.
- Annual reports and five-year plans are presented to elected officials. Customer satisfaction surveys are utilized in the development of these reports.

#### Public Access

- APC is a seven- (7) day per week operation. Weekend access to animal control officers is available through message numbers and 911 referral.
- Complaint lines are accessible 24 hours per day with on-call service at night and holidays. Multiple Information telephone numbers are published with 24-hour access.
- The division web page provides access to general information, a variety of applications, and ordinances reorganized by general concerns.
- Customer service comment cards are prominently available at the APC office.

### <u>Interest Organizations - Local Regulatory Agencies</u>

#### Outreach Programs

- APC maintains a division level liaison program with enforcement agencies and neighborhood associations to encourage communication and proactive response to issues.
- The licensing program conducts an annual canvassing program-providing information, and visibility, in neighborhoods.
- Twenty-five (25) agent locations are available for license transactions and information brochures.
- Forty-eight (48) additional community locations are utilized for public access to informational brochures.

#### Partnership Programs

- Many fundamental services are delivered through partnerships with local non-profit organizations. Partnerships are formed through agreement for cooperative actions to address community concerns.
- Regional, State and National Associations. Active membership provides access to support, training, liaison, and program evaluation resources.

#### Elected Officials - Local Government

- Regional service provision provides contact with elected officials of multiple jurisdictions.
- Workshops and complaint tracking systems provide feedback on the perception, and expectation, of APC programs.

### Performance Gaps & Issues

Each program of the APC division utilizes partnerships in providing services. These partnerships range from volunteer advisory boards to contracted agents for selling pet licenses. While such methods of service provision can be complicated and lead to delay when implementing new policy and procedure, it also provides an interactive link to the division's stakeholders that enhances the ability to identify trends and perceptions the programs need to address.

Animal Protection & Control programs are classified by the categories:

- Mandated by code or contract;
- Essential to the health and welfare of the community;
- Discretionary to the livability of the community;

# 1. Enforcement Program

#### Animal Shelter: Mandated

- The fundamental service mandate of Title 8 Animals is the provision of a shelter for the housing, care and recovery of stray animals. This service is provided through a contractual partnership with the SW Washington Humane Society.
- The shelter service program is dependent upon a single source contractor.
- Long range planning of the shelter vendor for a new facility may not include animal control services at the new location. Current proposals are for APC services to remain at the current location.
- Policy determination of the Society to provide contracted services is dependent upon a board of directors that may be subject to change in membership, community perception, and political outlook.
- Shelter availability is primarily for domestic pets.
- Available traditional animal shelter space, per population, is significantly less than similar Washington jurisdictions. \*\*\*\*\*

#### Partnerships: Essential

- Partnerships are a form of volunteer services in which the cooperative organizations maintain their own identity and priorities.
- Volunteers are a generally unreliable resource on which to base mandated services.

### Service Mandates: Mandated by Code

- Federal, State and health district policy determinations created un-funded mandates.
   CC 8.01.040 established the Animal Control division in 1981 and references shared responsibilities with other agencies. The code directs the county to avoid duplication of services.
  - 1. USDA APHIS inspection & regulation of exotic animal facilities is restricted.
  - 2. WA State Dept. of Wildlife has privatized nuisance wildlife control. The public turns to local authority to avoid the associated fees.
  - 3. The Health Department's amended rabies exposure protocol has increased workload and health hazard for APC staff.
  - 4. WA State Dept. of Agriculture no longer responds to, or facilitates, the capture and transport of stray livestock.
- Historic mandates in direct competition with private enterprise.

#### Personnel & Equipment: Essential

- Budget limitations restrict human and equipment resources. Fee based services, especially those generated from regulatory agencies, are often perceived by the public as punitive costs rather then support for desirable community programs.
- Overall service demand increasing at an average of 5% per year.

Service Request Analysis	1996	1998	2000	2002	% Change 1996-2002
Domestic Nuisance: Dead Animals; At Large Pets; Noise Nuisance; Animals in Distress	6319	6605	7195	7192	+ 14 %
Livestock Issues: At Large & Cruelty	451	304	347	432	- 4 %
Vicious: Vicious Dogs; Animal Bites:	1213	1188	1549	1545	+ 27 %
Cruelty to Animals: Domestic Animals	715	653	790	944	+ 32 %
Other: Wildlife; Licensing; Miscellaneous	198	342	741	1063	+ 436 %
TOTALS	8,896	9,092	10,622	11,176	+ 26 %

Animal Control Officer's time restrictions limit ability to provide quality service. The
National Animal Control Association provides a methodology for estimating animal
control officer staffing needs. Utilizing this methodology it can be estimated that
Clark County is operating at approximately 30% of officer need for effective service
delivery.\*\*\*\*

### **Animal Control Officer Time Expenditure Analysis**

	1989	% of day 1989	2001	% of day 2001
Case management, training, special program activities	2 hours 55 minutes	36%	1 hour 36 minutes	20%
Travel time between responsibilities	3 hours 45 minutes	47%	3 hours 26 minutes	43%
On-site at Calls Contact with reporting parties, animal owners or animals.	1 hour 20 minutes	17%	2 hours 58 minutes	37%
	1989		2001	
FTE: Animal Control & Pet License Officers	5		7	
Complaints of code violations & service requests	8,341		28,166	

# 2. Administration Program

Historic Service Guidelines: Discretionary

- Performance expectations may be higher than other regional jurisdictions. Examples are:
  - 1. 7 day per week, 24 hour response.
  - 2. No categorical exceptions by animal types.
  - 3. Human resources do not match public expectations for time of response.
  - 4. Customer Service guidelines often equate to convenience service for the public.
  - 5. Public service policy often places APC in conflict with private vendors. Examples are Nuisance Wildlife Operators licensed by the state and private pet transport vendors.

#### Sources of Revenue

Category	Percent
Fees	32%
Penalties	3%
Inter-local agreements	35%
General Fund	30%

AGENCY	ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS	POPULATION	POPULATION PER OFFICER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION (Field Response)	JURISDICTION DESCRIPTION
Camas/Washougal	2	21,129	10,565	Dog control only	Urban
Skamania County	1	9,872	9,872	Dog & Livestock	Rural
Multnomah County	16	660,486	41,280	Full domestic animal	Urban
City of Spokane	8	200,000	33,333	Small domestic animals	Urban
Columbia County	1	40,000	40,000	Dog control only	Rural
Clark County	5	335,000	67,000	Domestic; livestock; urban wildlife	Urban/Rural
Tacoma/Pierce (Humane Society)	6	323,966	53,994	All domestic animals	Urban/Rural
Clackamas County	4	338,391	84,598	Dog control only	Urban/Rural
Washington County	4	323,800	80,950	Dog control only	Urban/Rural
Cowlitz County (Humane Society)	3	90,001	30,000	All domestic animals	Rural

#### Animal Protection & Control Advisory Board:

Mandated Discretionary

- Membership interest is derived from special interests organizations and often does not reflect the general public.
- Special interests often wish to direct policy and operations.
- Policy & procedure recommendations may often be in conflict with the general public perception of issues, needed policy guidelines, and fiscal responsibility.

### Potential Partnership Conflicts: Di

Discretionary

Essential

- Partnerships are only successful if perceived as mutually beneficial. APC also regulates organizations in partnerships.
- Competition for resources in areas of donations and volunteer assistance
- As a facilitator agency APC easily becomes a target for service complaints.
- Government is perceived as the panacea for all communities problems, while actual resources are restricted

### 3. Licensing Program

Technology: Essential

• Technological enhancements have been hindered by lack of revenue resource.

#### Community Issues: Discretionary

- Special interest organizations may inadvertently hinder enhancements. Special license
  fee categories for pet owners as well as pets require FTE time in review and account
  updating.
- Pet licensing is perceived as an unwarranted intrusion into family life, not as a fee base for services. Voluntary compliance is limited.
- Fee base is transient in nature. Outreach and enforcement efforts generate non-voluntary licensing. Renewal compliance limited.

### 4. Hearing Program

Historic Policy Guidelines: Discretionary

• Public can utilize service at no cost.

Funding: Essential

Accountability for non-compliance is very poor. Collection of fees and penalties is not
cost effective, but the program has benefits in resolution of community livability and
public safety issues.

Resources: Essential

• In order to generate enhancement to the quality of this program APC has removed resources from the enforcement program.

# Programs & Performance Measures

Animal Protection & Control acts as a coordinating and facilitating agency for the resolution of animal related problems and community issues. The division is responsible for the enforcement of ordinances and state laws pertaining to animals, primarily domestic. These include licensing and vaccination requirements as well as stray animal, vicious, cruelty, livestock and nuisance provisions. The services of the Enforcement Program are provided seven days per week. Animal shelter services are provided through a contract with the SW Washington Humane Society. Animal Control provides administrative oversight of this agreement for the cities it provides animal control services. The city of Vancouver, city of Battle Ground and town of Yacolt have inter-local agreements with the County for animal control services. The City of Vancouver inter-local agreement consolidates all animal control programs within the agreement. An Animal Protection & Control Advisory Board provides for communication, coordination and public input into policy development. Through the advisory board process community projects have developed in cooperation with private organizations to address continuing community concerns. Some of these projects promote animal placement, responsible pet ownership, humane care of pets and livestock, dealing with aggressive animals. Special community event projects have developed to ensure the public awareness, and to provide incentives, to spay and neuter pets.

### Administration Program

Administration is responsible for developing policies and procedures, providing budget and financial control and providing oversight for the overall operations of the division. Services are provided to the cities of Vancouver, Battle Ground and Yacolt through inter-local agreements. Many of the services delivered are privatized. Animal Sheltering, Licensing Agents, After-hours Emergency Response and Community Spay/Neuter Assistance are all service programs utilizing vendor, or partnership, agreements.

In conjunction with the Animal Protection & Control Advisory Board, this program facilitates communication, and coordination of animal interest organizations, in order to provide public/private partnership programs which benefit the people, and animals, of the community.

#### Program Goal:

To manage the county Animal Control programs in a financially responsible manner while providing an effective level of community service.

#### **Objective:**

Cost efficient programs

#### **Indicators:**

Population served per FTE	1997	1999	2001	2003 projected
	29,191	31,385	32,796	34,108

Service programs that implement the Administration program goals include:

Outreach	<ul> <li>Liaison with City/County Office of Neighborhoods</li> <li>Webpage updates &amp; enhancements</li> <li>Education program for all ages. Various presentations applicable to schools, agencies, or organizations</li> </ul>
Violence Indicators Prevention (VIP)	A multi-agency public education campaign against violence integrating domestic abuse, child protection, arson and animal abuse prevention programs
Safety/Training	<ul> <li>Liaison w/ Countywide, Dept &amp; Divisions regarding safety issues.</li> <li>Identify &amp; track APC specific training &amp; certifications.</li> </ul>

### **Enforcement Program**

This program enforces local and state regulations establishing care and control requirements of animal ownership in Clark County. Officers of this program also address rabies control and provide emergency response to animal concerns primarily involving domestic pets, livestock and wildlife within urban service districts. Five Animal Control Officers provide urban and rural services seven days per week through a priority system identifying public safety/emergency, daily and follow up categories of service requests. Approximately 11,500 service requests are responded to annually. An individual service request may require multiple responses before closure. Night and holiday response to animal emergencies is provided through a service contract with a private vendor. Officers also provide education in the local schools and summer camps with our bite prevention program.

#### Program Goal:

To provide for the community health, safety and welfare through the enforcement of ordinances regulating animal care and control.

#### **Objective:** Priority Response.

The priority response system of service delivery was developed to coordinate available resources. This program has experienced a 23% increase in complaints/service requests over the past five years. During the same period there has been a 31% increase in reports of vicious dogs and animal cruelty, the categories deemed the highest priority. The program response has been to maintain performance goals related to public safety and welfare issues.

#### **Indicators:**

Priority code	Goal	1997-1998	1999-2000	2001-2002
Red Imminent danger to people, Animals or property. Assistance to public safety agencies.	30 minutes	40 minutes	38 minutes	34 minutes
Blue Public assistance. Perceived hazard or threat is not occurring at this time.	8 hours (daily)	1 hour 44 minutes	2 hours 35 minutes	5 hours 37 minutes
Green General nuisance & services not identified within codes.	48 hours	155 hours	20 hours 17 minutes	55 hours 1 minute

### Service programs that implement the Enforcement program goals include:

Animal Sheltering	The fundamental service mandate of Title 8 Animals is the provision of a shelter for the housing care and recovery of stray animals. This service is provided through a contractual partnership with the SW Washington Humane Society.
After-Hour Emergency Response	Provision of animal ambulance and professional animal handler to assist public safety officers' nights and holidays. The service is contracted to a private vendor.
Enhanced Patrol	Public safety effort to increase animal control presence in & near parks & schools
Disaster Planning	APC response, coordination & relief planning in disaster situations
Dog Bite Prevention	Education program for all ages. Various presentations applicable to schools, agencies, or organizations

#### Licensing Program

The Licensing program addresses the County Code mandate calling for dog and cat licensing by transacting more than 25,000 pet licenses annually and documenting the currency of the pet's immunizations. It also maintains humane standards for animal care through inspecting and licensing animal businesses and private domestic animal facilities. Through fee wavers, it offers a program of incentives to encourage spaying and neutering of pets with the intent of reducing the number of unwanted animals and its associated animal neglect. Pet Licensing Officers provide for enforcement and education of licensing issues and standards. Facility inspections, neighborhood canvassing, delinquent licensing follow up and wild/exotic animals, and dangerous dog licensing are services provided through this program.

#### Program Goal:

To manage the licensing system in order to provide for community health, safety and welfare while reducing negative environmental and livability impacts created by excess pet populations.

Objective:	Indicators: 1997	1999	2001	2003 projected
Fewer Dogs & Cats Requiring Shelter	9,677	9,621	9,758	10,538
Increase Percentage of Shelter Strays Returned to Owner	10%	19%	18%	19%
Increase Pet License Sales to Fund Services	22,043	22,648	25,026	27,925
Educate Public Regarding Pet License Revenue To Services Relationship	\$199,085	\$204,801	\$271,590	\$285,170

### Services programs that implement the Licensing program goals include:

Community Spay/Neuter Assistance	Partnership program providing subsidized spaying and neutering services.
Low Income Assistance	Low-income households may receive assistance with the expense of pet licensing if the pet is spayed/neutered & written evidence of low-income status is provided.
Licensing Agents	Twenty-six (26) agents located throughout the county are contracted to sell pet licenses.
Neighborhood Canvassing	Direct contact with residents regarding the purpose and requirements of pet licensing. Contacts may be in the form of warning notices, education material or license transactions.
Complex Nuisance Control	Cooperative program with rental complex management for the control of nuisance pet problems & tenant compliance with pet licensing requirements. 147 complexes are involved in the program.

### Hearings Program

This program provides for an administrative hearing process to resolve appeals of enforcement actions taken by the division. It tracks all of the division's citation and impoundment activity and is responsible for the scheduling, organization and determinations of all appeal hearings as well as compliance with penalties and orders of corrective action resulting from Hearing Officer decisions. Through this program the majority of animal-related violations of local ordinances are resolved without impacting the criminal justice system.

# Program Goal:

To provide an appeals forum for resolution of community disputes arising from animal related issues and enforcement action by Animal Control.

**Objective:** Increase the efficiency of collection of fees and penalties incurred through code violations

Indicators:	1997	1999	2001	2003 projected
Hearings	263	267	191	198
Penalties Collected	\$15,335	\$21,660	\$20,490	\$22,000

# Strategies

### Expanded Partnership Programs

Partnership programs have been a very successful method of unifying private and public stakeholder resources on a signal goal. It is recommended that the County expand its formal contractual partnerships. The animal control's administration program should continue to encourage, facilitate and promote cooperation with and among stakeholder organizations on the mutually held goal of reducing the disposable pet population in Clark County.

New contractual partnership areas to ensure the delivery of basic services may include:

- Low-Income Assistance.
- Veterinary assistance for non-profit animal rescue/foster animal shelters.
- Pet Therapy programs.

#### **Public Education**

Expanded Web page access and email newsletters to stakeholder organizations may be the most timely and cost effective manner to communicate with stakeholder organizations. The stakeholders of the animal control division do not benefit from the outreach programs of the Community Development Department. The APC Outreach program may act as a liaison and facilitator of news of interest to the stakeholders of the APC division. This could be achieved through the hosting of a community referral web page.

### Accessibility to Resources

The community has grown faster than the personnel resources of the division. Enforcement issues dominate the time of field and support employees, negating effectiveness of the division special programs that were instituted to facilitate the division's goals and objectives. Nuisance wildlife and dead animal pick up and disposal are historical, but not code related services. Vendors currently exist who may be contracted to provide these services.

One additional position to act as a coordinator for the divisions special programs, public outreach officer and volunteer program coordinator may have major impact upon available field officer time. This would come through the reduction of current employee time invested in meetings and program development.

It may not be practical to have animal services totally fee supported as non-pet owning, as well as pet owners, benefit from the division programs. Local governments should investigate statewide initiatives to benefit animal protection and control programs.

### Volunteer Programs

Community education events such as public fairs, pet adopt-a-thons, national tag & spay days, and community candlelight vigils continue to increase. Animal Control, as the regulatory agency involved with these interest groups, is inherently involved and should actively participate.

A volunteer park patrol modeled upon existing handicapped parking enforcement programs may be cost effective and viable without competing for volunteers with non-profit stakeholder organizations.

#### Code Amendments

County Code Title 8 Animals has not undergone a major review since 1997. It is recommended the following areas be reviewed for definition, enhancement, or revision:

- 1. Increased regulation/penalties for owners of vicious dogs;
- 2. Welfare group / foster home / rescue code definitions;
- 3. Leash Law district boundaries;
- 4. Doggie Daycare definition and inspection requirements;
- 5. Cattery definition and inspection criteria:
- 6. Calculation methodology for pet license, facility & inspection fees;
- 7. Facility inspections as an annual or initial inspection;
- 8. Re-inspection fees for facilities found in non compliance;
- 9. Service animal definition and fee;
- Exotic qualifications & criteria: codify standards for inherently dangerous animals:
- 11. Advisory Board membership;
- 12. Dog (off leash) Parks;
- 13. Mandatory micro chipping upon second impoundment of the same animal;
- 14. Mandatory micro chipping of Dangerous Dogs.

### Community Incentive Program

It is recommended the County consider adopting basic marketing practices in addition to its public education campaign regarding animal licensing. An annual lottery prize tied to the purchase of the annual license would increase the public awareness of licensing and its community benefits.

### **Appendix**

### Population Analysis Methodology

\*

### **Estimating Human Populations:**

2000 United States Census provided the figures for the population of cities, towns, and unincorporated Clark County as well as the estimated residents per household. 2003 population estimates for cities and towns provided by The Columbian newspaper.

\*\*

#### Estimating Dog Population:

Number of household  $\times$  .396 (% of households owning a dog)  $\times$  1.5 (# of dogs per household), **Estimating Cat Population:** 

Number of households  $\times$  .413 (% of households owning a cat)  $\times$  1.97 (# of cats per household).

A second formula often utilized estimates the general percentage of pets to population at 45%. This methodology has been utilized for this report as its results are most consistent with the estimate tabulated by Intercept Research Corporation as part of the 1990 Community Assessment Survey conducted for the Animal Control Advisory Board. The identified separate formulas for dogs and cats were then utilized for the species estimates. The means of determining cat and dog population is often the subject of debate over its accuracy, but is the commonly accepted means of determining these populations. This methodology was compared to the pet population estimated tabulated for the 1991 advisory board five-year plan by Intercept Research Corporation and was found to be of comparable accuracy.

\*\*\*

#### **Estimating Livestock Populations:**

The Washington Agricultural Statistics Service prepares estimates of the state's agriculture annually. The livestock population estimates are based upon the U.S. Census of Agriculture, which is conducted on a 5-year cycle, with 1997 being the last census year. This data has been utilized for agricultural animals other than horses.

The estimate of the Clark County horse population is based upon a survey commissioned by the Clark County Executive Horse Council in October 2000 and conducted by Market Decisions, Incorporated.

\*\*\*

#### Estimating Animal Control Officer to Population Service Need:

The National Animal Control Association provides the following methodology, which has been utilized in this report.

In most situations, the National Animal Control Association utilizes the "calls for service" model in determining an appropriate number of personnel.

Officer availability for staffing is determined by deducting from 2,080 hours (the maximum for one year), and the time required for vacation, sick leave, court time, "flex" days and training. In using this model, the average number of hours dedicated to Animal Control for Animal Control will be 1,832 hours (a standardized ratio), or 229 days.

Determine the relief factor (relating to the number of officers needed to fill one position for the entire year) by

Dividing the number of days of work required for each beat area in a year (365) by the average number of days officers actually work in a year. In using this ratio, the 365 divided by 229 equal's 1.60 officers per day, per district.

#### \*\*\*\*

### Estimating Animal Shelter Space:

Washington Federation of Animal Care & Control Agencies Annual Shelter Survey.

# CLARK COUNTY ANIMAL PROTECTION AND CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD

#### By Laws

#### **SECTION 1: PURPOSE**

Under Section 8.01.030 of the Clark County Code, the Board of Clark County Commissioners has established an Animal Protection and Control Advisory Board. The purpose of the advisory board is as follows:

- A) To advise the Board of Clark County Commissioners on issues and needs relating to animal protection and control services in Clark County, and, through comprehensive planning and other measures, to promote the most efficient service possible.
- B) To promote measures which encourage greater awareness of animal protection and control services and the responsibilities of pet ownership.
- C) To promote measures which prevent injury to property and minimize annoyances and hazards that may result from uncontrolled animals.
- D) To promote measures which prevent injury to and the inhumane treatment of animals.

#### SECTION 2: DUTIES - BY CODE

The Animal Protection and Control Advisory board has the following duties and responsibilities, as provided in Section 8.01.030 of the Clark County Code.

- A) The advisory board shall report no less often than once annually to the Board of Clark County Commissioners on recommended modifications or additions to Title 8 of the Clark County Code and on the general operations of the Animal Protection and Control Department.
- B) The advisory board may act as an appeal hearing tribunal pursuant to Section 8.19.080 of the Clark County Code. Provided it will do so only with the review and approval of the Board of Clark County Commissioners; this hearing function may be delegated to a subcommittee of the advisory board composed of no less than three of its voting members.
- C) The advisory board shall perform such other further duties as may be authorized or directed by resolution of the Board of Clark County Commissioners.

#### **SECTION 3: DUTIES - OTHER**

The Animal Protection and Control Advisory Board has the following additional duties and responsibilities, as directed by the Board of Clark County Commissioners pursuant to Section 2.C above.

- A) The advisory board shall review and evaluate on an ongoing basis animal protection and control issues, needs, services, and facilities in Clark County.
- B) The advisory board shall assist with the development of a five-year comprehensive plan for the Animal Protection and Control Department. The plan shall identify needs and establish priorities for animal protection and control services in Clark County. The plan shall be submitted to the Board of Clark County Commissioners for approval and shall be reviewed and updated every five years.
- C) The advisory board shall monitor trends involving changes in animal populations, demands for services, and licensing activities, and shall report to the Board of Clark County Commissioners as appropriate.
- D) The advisory board shall help prepare and coordinate a countywide public information program to inform county residents about Clark County's animal protection and control services, as well as to promote the general safety and welfare of animals.
- E) The advisory board shall coordinate its activities with other agencies and boards involved with animal protection and control services to avoid duplication and provide the best service possible.
- F) The advisory board shall not be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Clark County Animal Protection and Control Department and shall refer those matters to appropriate staff members.

#### **SECTION 4: MEMBERSHIP**

The Animal Protection and Control Board consists of not less than seven(7) nor more than eleven(11) members. Members are appointed by the Board of Clark County Commissioners. Appointments shall attempt to include the following affiliations and categories, as provided for in Section 8.01.030 of the Clark County Code. Such interests may represent, but are not limited to:

- A) One member who owns or operates a licensed facility (included kennel) in Clark County;
- B) One member who is a licensed veterinarian who practices in Clark County;
- C) One member who is a Clark County resident who is affiliated as a member, employee, or officer in a Clark County animal welfare organization;
- D) One member who is a Clark County resident who is affiliated as a member, employee, or officer in a Clark County livestock organization;
- E) One member who owns dog(s) but who does not work in, own, or operate any facility;
- F) One member who owns cat(s) but who does not work in, own, or operate any facility;

- G) One member who is any animal owner other than a dog/cat;
- H) One member who is a Clark County resident who neither owns nor maintains domestic animals:
- I) Members at large who are Clark County residents.
- J) One member who owns or operates a cattery.

In addition to these members, the director of the Animal Protection and Control office or his designee shall serve as an officio, non-voting member of the advisory board.

One member of the organization holding the contract for provision of animal control services, currently held by the Vancouver Humane Society, shall also serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the advisory board. \*\*\*

#### SECTION 5: TERMS OF THE OFFICE

In forming the advisory board, five members shall be appointed, by the Board of County Commissioners, to one-year terms and five members to two-year terms. Thereafter, all members shall be appointed to two-year terms.

\*\*\* The amendments to section 4 shall become effective upon the amendment of CCC 8.01.030.

#### **SECTION 6: VACANCIES**

When vacancies occur, the Board of Clark County Commissioners shall appoint someone to fill the unexpired term. This includes vacancies caused by a change in status of a member under the selection criteria set forth above during the course of his term.

Vacancies may be declared when any member misses two(2) consecutive regular meetings, or assigned committee meetings, without notifying the Animal Protection and Control Office or the chairman of the advisory board, or when any member misses the equivalent of one-quarter of the scheduled meetings within a twelve month period. Reasonable effort will be made to determine the member's continued interest before the vacancy is declared.

A members position will be considered vacant, when any member misses three(3) regular meetings, or assigned committee meetings, within a twelve(12) month period, beginning with the month of a members appointment, and continuing in twelve(12) month intervals during the period of appointment. This section will in no way abrogate the authority of the Board of County Commissioners to reappoint a member to finish their original term of appointment.

#### **SECTION 7: OFFICERS**

The advisory board shall elect annually one of its voting members to serve as chairman; and one member to serve as vice-chairman; other officers shall be elected as the board deems appropriate.

Election of officers shall be held at the last regular Board meeting of the calendar year. All terms of office shall be one year. More than one term may be served.

#### **SECTION 8: MEETINGS**

The advisory board will hold regular meetings, open to the public, and will give advanced public notice of these meetings. Until otherwise determined by the advisory board, the regular board meetings will be held as follows:

Day: Fourth Thursday of each month

Time: 6:30 p.m.

A majority of the board members serving shall constitutes a quorum.

The advisory board shall keep written record of meetings, resolutions, recommendations, findings, etc., which shall be a public record.

In the absence of the chairman and vice-chairman (in the event a vice-chairman has been elected), an acting chairman shall be appointed by the board members present.

#### **SECTION 9: AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS**

The provisions set forth herein (except those established by statute and county resolution) may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the advisory board members. Any amendments shall be voted on at a regular meeting and all members shall receive a minimum of 10 days prior notice.

#### SECTION 10: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

All meetings of the Board shall be conducted utilizing <u>Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised</u> as a nonbinding guide.

as amended 1999, 2003

Clark	County Ani	imal Protecti	on & Control	Year End R	eport 2002			
				SERVICE R	REQUESTS			
	City of Va	ncouver			Clark Coun	•		
	Dec-02	YTD 12/02	YTD 12/01	% Chg	Dec-02	YTD 12/02	YTD 12/01	% Chg
Dead Animals	32	489	482	1%	26	382	445	-14%
At Large: Pets	154	2,008	1,966	2%	136	2,086	2,191	-5%
At Large: Livestock	1	27	30	-10%	20	187	201	-7%
Noise Nuisance	45	811	869	-7%	40	853	907	-6%
Cruelty: Domestic	32	504	408	24%	38	440	456	-4%
Cruelty: Livestock	2	36	23	36%	17	182	121	50%
Animals in Distress	19	295	286	3%	15	268	291	-8%
Bites Vicious	33	111 555	122 485	-9% 14%	9 47	157 706	157 747	0% -5%
	0	11	18	-64%	0	5	20	-5% -75%
Dangerous Dogs Licensing	2	307	309	-1%	7	263	223	18%
Other	21	197	173	14%		296	262	13%
TOTALS	346	5,351	5,171	3%	374	5,825	6,021	-3%
IUIALS	340	5,551	5,171	3/0	3/4	5,625	0,021	-3/0
			SERVIC	CE REQUES	TS CITY/CO	DUNTY		
		Dec-02		YTD 12/02		YTD 12/01		% Chg
Dead Animals		58		871		927		-6%
At Large: Pets		290		4,094		4,157		-2%
At Large: Livestock		21		214		231		-7%
Noise Nuisance		85		1,664		1,776		-7%
<b>Cruelty: Domestic</b>		70		944		864		9%
<b>Cruelty: Livestock</b>		19		218		144		51%
<b>Animals in Distress</b>		34		563		577		-2%
Bites		14		268		279		-4%
Vicious		80		1,261		1,232		2%
Dangerous Dogs		0		16		38		-138%
Licensing		9		570		532		7%
Other		40		493		435		12%
TOTALS		720		11,176		11,192		0%
		NOT	ICES OF					
			N/ABATEMI	ENT				
	City of Vo	ncouver		Clark Cou		itv		
	City of Vancouver Dec-02 YTD 12/02		YTD 12/01	% Chg Dec-02		YTD 12/02	YTD 12/01	% Chg
Notices Issued	40	573	568	70 Clig 1%	74	777	735	6%
Penalties Collected	\$303.00	\$6,017.93	\$5,781.69	4%	\$614.07	\$9,756.57	\$9,614.02	1%
		,	,,	.,,	, , , , , , ,	,,	,	

		CITATIONS	S/ABATEME	NT/IMPOU	NDMENTS			
				YTD 12/02		YTD 12/01		% Chg
Citations Issued				1350		1303		4%
<b>Penalties Collected</b>				\$15,774.50		\$15,395.71		2%
				PET LIC	ENSING			
	C'4CV				Clark Carr	- 4		
	City of Va	YTD 12/02	YTD 12/01	% Chg	Clark Cou	YTD 12/02	YTD 12/01	0/ Cha
Dog Licenses		7,185	7,155			10,773	10,482	% Chg 3%
Cat Licenses		3,587	3,456			3,550	3,354	
Cat Licenses		3,367	3,730	7/0		3,330	3,334	070
<b>Total Transactions</b>		10,772	10,611	2%		14,323	13,836	4%
Dog Fees		\$93,890.00	\$93,208.00	1%		\$142,863.00	\$138,944.00	3%
Cat Fees		\$20,040.00	\$18,986.00	6%		\$19,773.00	\$18,783.00	5%
<b>Total Fee Collection</b>		\$113,930.00	\$112,194.00	2%		\$162,636.00	\$157,727.00	3%
			TOTAL PET	Γ LICENSIN	G			
				YTD 12/02		YTD 12/01		% Chg
Dog Licenses				17,958		17,637		2%
Cat Licenses				7,137		6,810		5%
<b>Total Transactions</b>				25,095		24,447		3%
Dog Fees				\$236,753.00		\$232,152.00		2%
Cat Fees				\$39,813.00		\$37,769.00		5%
<b>Total Fee Collection</b>				\$276,566.00		\$269,921.00		2%
			HOBBY RE WAIVERS	GISTRATIO	DN			
	City of Va	incouver				Clark County		
	Dec-02	Dec-01	% chg			Dec-02	Dec-01	% chg
Dog Fees Waived	\$0.00	\$0.00				\$9,274.00	\$9,244.00	0%

### SHELTER IMPOUND

# City of Vancouver

# **Clark County**

	Dogs	Cats	Dogs	Cats	Total 2002	Total 2001	% Chg
Animal Control	385	267	473	211	1336	1574	- 15%
Citizen Strays	439	1564	468	1549	4020	3681	+ 9%
Total	824	1831	941	1760	5356	5255	+ 2%

### COMMUNITY SPAY/NEUTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

# Partnership Organizations

### Justice for Animal Welfare Society

J.A.W.S. PO Box 2247 Vancouver, WA 98668

(360) 693-8521 fax: (360) 695-2804

Mission:

Continuing to serve the needs of the community for low-cost spaying and neutering of companion pets for low-income, elderly, disabled and homeless persons.

JAWS is a dedicated group I helping to reduce the numbers of unwanted pets in this community. JAWS is the only Pay/neuter assistance group servicing the Vancouver, Clark County area. By having the only spay/neuter assistance program, we are striving to make a difference I preventing the unwanted births of puppies and kittens being born each year. We are also helping to reduce the number of animals having to be euthanized at the humane shelter from lack of good and available homes. By reaching the people that cannot afford to have the animals altered, we also educate them on responsible pet ownership and care.

JAWS pays for  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the total cost of the spay or neuter. If the owner has no funds to pay for their  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the cost, then JAWS pays the full amount. The JAWS members transport well over half of these animals to and from the different area veterinarians that support our low cost program. Many of the person that we help either have no transportation, or rely on public transportation.

JAWS is an all-volunteer organization. We have no paid staff, all expenses and time are donated to the JAWS organization.

JAWS also helps pay for emergency euthanizations, so animals will not suffer.

JAWS also helps on a limited basis, for emergency treatment for pets that have fallen ill. We help pay for the medications.

JAWS is also continuing to vaccinate pets that are going through our spay/neuter program, to help keep the pet healthy and prevent the spreading of contagious canine and feline diseases.

JAWS also has an emergency pet food program that is sponsored by SW Washington Humane Society and donations.

### Second Chance Companions

(360) 687-4569

PO Box 2343 Battle Ground, WA 98604

www.sccpets.com

Second Chance Companions is a non-profit, all-volunteer organization with a focus on finding permanent, responsible homes for pets via adoption. Adoption fees currently are \$35 for adult cats, \$50 for kittens, and \$60 for dogs. Without a facility, foster care is limited. All pets in foster care at least four-to-six months of age are altered prior to placement. Second Chance Companions assists owners caring for their pets while awaiting adoption in having the pet altered, if necessary.

Second Chance Companions attempts to assist the current owner with behavioral, or training, issues to encourage them to keep their pets. We network with other organizations that specialize such as senior pet rescue and purebred rescues.

In 2002, Second Chance Companions facilitated in the placement of 428 cats, 570 dogs, and 8 other companion animals from rodents to llamas. Second Chance Companions altered 151 cats and 110 dogs.

Second Chance Companions can be reached at (360) 687-4569 or <a href="www.sccpets.com">www.sccpets.com</a>. All responses are made by volunteers with a goal of responding within 48 hours.

### Southwest Washington Humane Society

2121 St. Francis Lane Vancouver, WA 98660

telephone (360) 693-4746 fax (360) 693-2338

www.sw-wa-humanesociety.org

The mission of the Southwest Washington Humane Society is the prevention of cruelty to animals, the relief of suffering among animals and the extension of humane education. Each animal is examined to determine its physical condition and measures are taken to meet its individual needs. We turn nothing away, injured and orphaned wildlife are transported to rehabilitation groups and facilities.

Each adopted animal is neutered prior to leaving the Shelter, they are also all given a microchip, Revolution vaccination and a free veterinary visit (within three days of adoption). Our adoption application includes questions about where the animal will sleep, how much time it will spend alone, and whether or not the home has fencing.

Last year we sheltered 11, 156 animals (10,035 cats and dogs) from Clark and Skamania counties. Our education programs include shelter tours, classroom presentations, responsible pet care and addressing the issue of pet overpopulation. Our volunteers contribute tens of thousands of hours to the animals and the Society's programs. They continue to be the lifeline of the shelter and help make-up its staff. In 2001 our special events, pet facilitated therapy, and outreach programs reached nearly 240,000 community members. We are funded primarily on donations and fundraising. Paws N Claws Thrift Store is one of our largest sources of income, along with the Walk for the Animals event.

Rick Collord, Executive Director, (360) 693-4746

Cassy Holcomb, Volunteer Coordinator, (360) 693-4746

Brittany Gosselin, Community Education Coordinator, (360) 750-0847

### West Columbia Gorge Humane Society

PO Box 270 Washougal WA 98671

#### Located at 2675 South Index Street

Washougal Industrial Park 360-835-3464 <u>ShelteringHands@yahoo.com</u> <u>www.wcghumanesociety.org</u>

#### Our Mission

It is the mission of the West Columbia Gorge Humane Society to provide guidance and be a resource for ethically humane treatment of animals in Clark County; with a focus on humane education, furthering spay/neuter programs, sheltering and assisting homeless animals to find loving homes and aiding animals guardians to better care for their companions.

In November 2002, a new board took over an established Humane Society. We have a small facility in Washougal that is able to house cats only. We can house up to 24 cats at a time but receive approximately 700 requests per year. Until recently, we had a small foster program for dogs. Because we ran into many issues we were not prepared for, we adopted all the dogs and closed the program. We are currently examining all fostering issues with the goal of reopening a well-prepared program.

We have an overall philosophy of treating each abandoned animal at out shelter as if it were our own. All cats are spayed or neutered at 2 lbs. They receive proper medical attention, grooming and socialization. No animal is adopted unaltered. We accept strays as well as surrendered animals. As we are struggling with financial obligations left by the previous board, we are not currently taking any un-adoptable (feral, FeLV, FIV) cats. Our future goal is to either accept every cat brought to us or to put them on a waiting list. No one should ever walk away feeling that they still need help.

Our adoption efforts include, Petfinder.com, our new web site, the Curious Companion, adoption days at pet stores and attending larger adoption events. We charge \$60 for both cats and dogs. We also request a \$30 surrender fee.

We have several special fundraising events per year. The previous board did not keep and records so we do not have annual fundraising figures. We estimate an annual budget of \$12,000. We do not have any paid employees.

We are the new kids on the block, but have made many improvements in out organization since November 2002. We are delighted to be working with the No More Homeless Pets Coalition. We have made quite a few new friends from the group and are impressed with the help we have received. We strongly believe that continuing to work together will help us all to better serve the animals who need us.

### Lucky Dog Adoption & Rescue

(360) 687-0672 www.luckydogrescue.com

Lucky Dog adoptions is an all breed dog rescue group. We have taken to "specialize" in dogs that need more help than the average Humane Society will give. We have working relationships with six Humane Societies in the area to help them with the dogs that need extra time and attention.

We are a small group and do an average of 65 adoptions a year. We charge a minimum of \$50 per adoption and more for special cases. We use the adoption fee as a way to cover the specific costs for each dog. At the moment when people call wanting to give up a dog we talk with them on the phone about alternative training methods and then we recommend that they take the dog to a local Humane Society. We spay/neuter everything that's over 8 weeks old and don't adopt anything younger than 8 weeks of age. All animals in our care are updated on shots.

We use a foster home system to care for the animals and have no public facility. Our budget average is 3000 a year and we do some fundraising. The one thing we do not do that we get a lot of calls for is free kenneling. Our website has a detailed philosophy, photos of all adoptable dogs, online forms and lots of useful info.

### SpottedPaw Northwest Dalmatian Rescue

SpottedPaw NW Dalmatian Rescue is a Clark County based non-profit organization of volunteers working together to reduce the overpopulation of Dalmatians that are homeless or unwanted. With the high popularity of the Dalmatian breed there is an increasing number of Dalmatians taken to the local shelters and consequently into rescue. SpottedPaw currently covers all veterinary expenses through personal volunteer donations and fundraising events.

All Dalmatians five months of age of older are spayed or neutered prior to adoption. All puppies younger than five months of age are adopted with a signed spay/neuter contract that requires the adopted Dalmatian be spayed or neutered before the age of six months. This allows for the differences in personal veterinarian's practices. Each puppy is followed by SpottedPaw to ensure this occurs. If the Dalmatian is not altered prior to reaching six months of age, they are taken back into foster care, altered, and adopted out.

SpottedPaw , a non-profit organization, was founded in May 1999. Over 50 Dalmatians were rescued during the first year. Now we have saved over 150 Dalmatian. We have foster homes throughout the Pacific Northwest and Alaska, and are always looking for more loving foster homes. We offer many services:

Foster Care, Adoptions, Referrals, Assisting with placing Dalmatians in need of new homes, and Behavior Modifications.

We are not a shelter, all of our Dalmatians are in loving foster homes from Salem, Or. to Vancouver, Wa. SpottedPaw is an official member of Dalsavers (Dalmatian Assistance League), a national organization of Dalmatian rescuers.

For more information visit www.dalsavers.com

### Furry Friends

### PO BOX 711 BRUSH PRAIRIE WA 98606 (360) 993-1097

www.furryfriendswa.org

Furry Friends is a volunteer run, non-profit animal care organization. The group of volunteers is dedicated to helping homeless pets by spaying/neutering, providing medical care, intimate foster care for all our animals and ultimately finding them homes through adoption events. We also utilize our web site where all our animals are listed and updated weekly. Furry Friends also contributes to the community through educational programs, is a charter member of the No More Homeless Pets Coalition of Clark County, visits care facilities with our therapy animals and when funding permits, assist seniors in deposits and medical care for their animals.

Furry Friends is a no-kill facility, and we join with other Washington groups to promote a no-kill status for the entire state. Furry Friends spays and neuters all of its adult animals and provides discounted services to those who adopt younger pets. We also require that animals be kept indoors only for their safety and health and strongly discourage de-clawing. Furry Friends also has all of it's adoptees screened for leukemia, FIV, checked for ear mites, fleas and given required vaccinations.

We hold adoption events 4 times a month at Petco and PetSmart. When an animal is selected for adoption there is an intensive screening process including an application, reference check and home inspection. Furry Friends also asks for a donation to cover the food, medicine and care the animal has received.

Our educational programs are available for clubs, groups and organizations. These programs teach various aspects of animal welfare including animal control, animal rights, first aid, safety, spaying/neutering and how our relationship with companion animals influences our society. We even have a presentation specially tailored for school age children, which focuses on animal care and compassion for all creatures.

Furry Friends regularly visits local residents of nursing homes and assisted living centers providing them with therapy animals that can be held and touched. This service allows residents and staff to interact and has been proven to be an effective method of stress reduction. We do not require special training, but pets must be well groomed, well behaved and must have current licensing and vaccinations.

Finally, we collect donations for seniors in assisted living facilities so that they can afford pet deposits to keep their companions. Furry Friends also helps these individuals with medical care, food and other expenses for their animals.